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TO : Assistant Director for Operations

DATE: 8 October 1951

FROM : Chief, Foreign Documents Division

SUBJECT: FDD Monthly Progress Report - September 1951

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1. The two-man team which had spent about two months surveying document sources and liaison problems at [] has returned []. The report of their findings is in progress.

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2. [] Consultant to the DCI, toured FDD on 27 September and was briefed on the Division's operations.

3. Continuing a several months' practice, [] new personnel from ORR, OSI, and OCD visited FDD during the month to be briefed on the Division's functions.

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4. [] FDD personnel are currently enrolled in language courses under the CIA training program. Languages studied include Chinese, Turkish, Burmese, Hebrew, Polish, and Hindi.

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5. [] Scientific and Technical Branch, FDD, attended the combined meeting, in New York, of the American Chemical Society, of which he is a member, and the International Congress of Chemistry. He has reported upon the meetings.

6. During the month, a number of FDD personnel performed external duties in other offices of CIA; one person was loaned to OCI for two weeks; one to Contact Division; and several persons reviewed foreign films in Graphics Register to ascertain their intelligence content.

7. A survey of 15 non-Russian-language republic newspapers was undertaken to determine whether or not their processing would contribute to current intelligence information on the USSR. The survey revealed that, although some 40 percent of their contents was not found in the Russian-language Soviet press, only a small part of this 40 percent represented information of possible intelligence value.

8. Among material received from State were two Soviet periodicals not recently available in the US. Meteorologiya i Gidrologiya (Meteorology and Hydrology), which had not been received in FDD since 1947, was made available in the September-December 1950 issues; Avtomatika i Telemekhanika (Automatics and Telemekhanics), not received since 1949, was made available in all 1950 issues and the first two issues of 1951.

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The IAD, State, allocation list of USSR serial subscriptions is being analyzed so that arrangements may be made for the procurement of USSR serials through alternate sources.

9. Noteworthy publications disseminated included the following:

25X1A a. Summary No. 48: "Forestry in the Eastern USSR"

b. [] reports troop movements on the Soviet-Iranian and Iraqi-Iranian borders.

25X1A c. [] claims that Soviet and Chinese officers and AA equipment are joining the Viet Minh.

25X1A d. [] reveals that the Chinese Communist press gives little support to the KMT claim that military developments will cause Lan-chou to be the new capital of China.

25X1C e. [] reports of increasing guerrilla activity in Bulgaria and claims that Chervenkov is under surveillance.

25X1A f. [] reports that the Iranian Communist expect to overthrow Mossadeq.

25X1C g. [] reports that Soviet troops have occupied certain Rumanian border cities.

10. Attached are details as follows:

Appendix A -- Statistical Report on FDD Operations
Appendix B -- Details on Personnel Actions

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J. J. BAGNALL

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Statistical Report on FDD Operations
Details on Personnel Actions

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